(b) and (c) During the last three years, the number of complaints received are as under:—

Complaints against unregistered recruiting agents

Year	No. of complaints	Prosecution Sanctions issued	Cases referred to State Governments/POEs for action
2006	78	21	57
2007	41	7	34
2008	93	58	35

Complaints against unregistered recruiting agents

Year	No. of complaints	Show cause notices issued	No. of Registration Certificates suspended/ cancelled	No. of complaints dropped/ resolved	Cases pending and being followed up
2006	167	167	80	87	Nil
2007	98	94	12	51	35
2008	118	118	19	45	54

Besides the above, 340 foreign employers have been placed under prior approval category based on such complaints.

(d) and (e) To strengthen the regulatory system and protect the rights and welfare of the Indian emigrants, comprehensive amendment of the Emigration Act, 1983 is underway.

Protection of Overseas Indians

1107. SHRI RAMA CHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of doctors, technocrats and migrant labour working in overseas countries; and

(b) whether the Indian Overseas Ministry has formulated National Policy or entered into any bipartite agreement with any country for the proper protection of Indians in Overseas?

THE MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI): (a) During 2006 and 2007, 6.76 lakhs and 8.09 lakhs Indian workers were granted emigration clearance

for the purpose of employment overseas. The number of doctors and technocrats working overseas is not available since they are not required to seek emigration clearance for employment overseas.

(b) Overseas employment of Indian citizens is governed by the Emigration Act, 1983. The Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs has entered into Memoranda of Understanding (MOU) with the major countries of destination such as the United Arab Emirates, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Jordan and Malaysia for protection and welfare of Indian workers. Bilateral Social Security Agreements have been signed with Belgium, France and Germany and are also being pursued with other countries of destination of protect the interest of Indian professionals.

Schemes for NRIs and PIOs

1108. SHRI SHREEGOPAL VYAS:
SHRI BALAVANT *ALIAS* BAL APTE:

Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of schemes being run for NRIs and Person of Indian Origin Citizens in different countries;

(b) whether any get-together programme for them is organised in Embassies;

(c) if so, the names of the countries where such programmes are organised; and

(d) the names of the festivals which are organized in the Embassies for said purpose?

THE MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI): (a) The following schemes are the major schemes in operation for NRIs and PIOs in different countries.

1. Overseas Citizenship of India;
2. PIO cards;
3. Know India Programme;
4. Tracing the Roots;
5. Scholarship Programme for Diaspora Children;
6. Scheme for giving legal assistance to Indian women deserted by their overseas Indian spouses;
7. Indian Community Welfare Fund.

(b) to (d) All Indian missions/posts organize get togethers on national days and some other Indian festivals. The overseas Indians take part in such functions. Deepawali, Holi, Id-ul-fitr and Christmas are among the festivals organized by the Indian missions/posts abroad. In addition, get togethers of overseas Indians are also organized from time to time during visits of important dignitaries from India.